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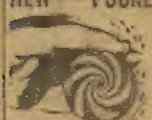

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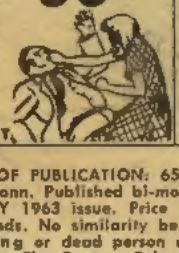

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RAW HIDE KID

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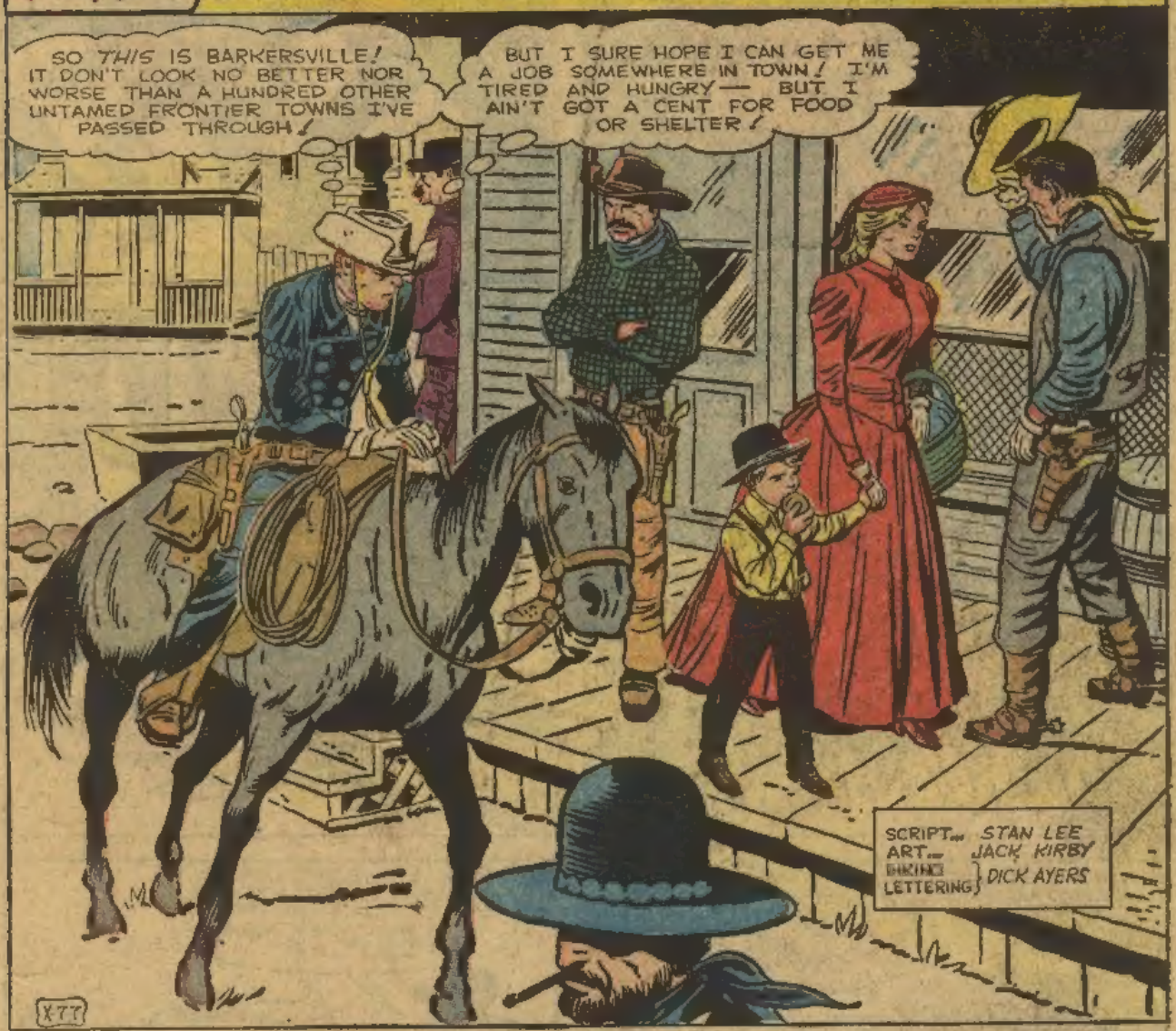
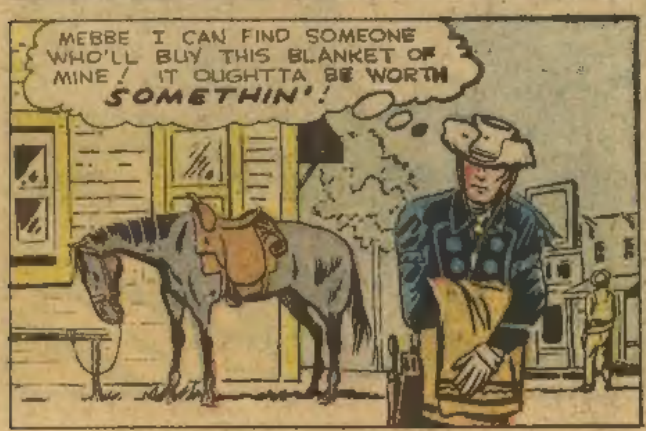

SO THIS IS BARKERSVILLE! IT DON'T LOOK NO BETTER NOR WORSE THAN A HUNDRED OTHER UNTAMED FRONTIER TOWNS I'VE PASSED THROUGH!
BUT I SURE HOPE I CAN GET ME A JOB SOMEWHERE IN TOWN! I'M TIRED AND HUNGRY— BUT I AIN'T GOT A CENT FOR FOOD OR SHELTER!
SCRIPT... STAN LEE
ART... JACK KIRBY
INKING / LETTERING } DICK AYERS
XTT



THERE'S A LIKELY-LOOKIN' GENT! HE LOOKS LIKE HE MIGHT BE ABLE TO AFFORD A NEW SADDLE BLANKET!
INTERESTED IN BUYIN' YORESELF A GOOD SADDLE BLANKET, MISTER?
HEY, YOU! WHAT DO YOU THINK YORE DOIN'?
WE DON'T WANT NO SADDLE-TRAMPS HANGIN' 'ROUND HERE!
WAIT! I'M JUST TRYIN' TO—
GIT OUT AND STAY OUT!
THEY SURE DON'T MAKE IT EASY FOR A HOMBRE TO GIT ALONG IN THIS—
UH OH! WHAT ARE ALL THESE JASPERS GATHERIN' AROUND FOR?
SO YORE LOOKIN' TO SELL YOUR NICE LITTLE SADDLE BLANKET, EH, SHORTY?
SUPPOSE WE GIVE IT A LITTLE TEST AFORE WE FIGGER IF WE WANNA BUY IT?
WELL? DON'T JUST STAND THERE, STUPID! DIDN'T YUH HEAR THE BOYS SAY THEY WANNA TEST IT?

HAW! 'PEARS TO ME LIKE IT'S A RIGHT BOUNCY BLANKET!
YEAH! AND STRONG, TOO! IT DON'T HARDLY TEAR OR NOTHIN' UNDER THAT LITTLE FELLA'S WEIGHT!
WHAT ARE YUH SITTIN' DOWN FOR, HALF-PINT? WE AIN'T FINISHED TESTIN' YET!
THAT'S RIGHT! WE RECKON YORE GOOD FOR A LOT MORE LAUGHS AFORE WE'RE DONE WITH YUH!
ALL RIGHT, YUH GRINNIN' HYENAS! IF IT'S LAUGHS YUH WANT, THEN START LAUGHIN' NOW!
LOUDER! YUH DON'T SOUND HAPPY ENOUGH YET TO SUIT ME!
WHY, YOU ORNERY COYOTE, I'LL—
MISTER, THERE'S ONLY ONE THING THAT YOU'LL DO—
—AND THAT'S GO TO SLEEP FOR A SPELL!
WHO DO YUH THINK YORE SLAPPIN' AROUND HERE, SONNY?
I'M RIGHT GLAD YUH ASKED ME, FRIEND!

I THINK I'M SLAPPIN' AROUND A BUNCH OF GRINNIN' APES, THAT'S WHO!
ANY MORE QUESTIONS?
ALL OF A SUDDEN YOU'VE RUN OUTTA CONVERSATION, HUH?
NICE GOIN', STRANGER! I LIKE YORE STYLE!
SO I LICKED A FEW SWAGGERIN' NOBODIES! SO WHAT?
SO I'M BLADE BARKER! MY BROTHERS AND ME OWN MOST OF THE LAND HEREABOUTS! THAT'S WHAT! AND IF YORE LOOKIN' FOR A JOB, IT'S YORES!
YOU JUST HIRED YOURSELF A HAND, MISTER BARKER!
I HEARD WHAT HE SAID TO YOU, SON! TAKE AN OLD MAN'S ADVICE, BOY— DON'T DO IT! DON'T WORK FOR THE BARKERS! IT AIN'T HEALTHY!
SORRY, OLD TIMER! HE'S THE FIRST HOMBRE WHO SPOKE DECENT TO ME SINCE I HIT THIS TOWN!
BUT WAIT— LET ME EXPLAIN! YOU LOOK LIKE A CLEAN-CUT HOMBRE! YOU DON'T KNOW...
NO TIME FOR TALK, MISTER! I'M HEADIN' FOR THE BARKER SPREAD WHILE THAT JOB IS STILL OPEN!
4

A SHORT TIME LATER...
SO THIS IS THE BIG-B RANCH, EH? DON'T LOOK TO ME LIKE A BAD PLACE TO WORK!
THAT THE JASPER YUH TOLD US ABOUT, BLADE?
THAT'S RIGHT, BIG BEN! HE'S A HEAP TOUGHER THAN HE LOOKS!
MUH NAME'S THE RAWHIDE KID! COULD BE YUH HEARD OF ME!
WE HEARD OF YUH! BUT WHY DO YUH WANT A JOB?
BECAUSE I'M PLUMB BUSTED! AND NO MATTER WHAT FOLKS SAY ABOUT ME, I LIKE TO MAKE MUH MONEY HONEST!
YOU TALK TOO SOFT AND EASY TO BE A HELLION LIKE THE RAWHIDE KID! I THINK YORE A FAKE!
MISTER, I DON'T LIKE FOR NO ONE TO GRAB MUH ARM, OR TO DOUBT MUH WORD!
AND JUST IN CASE YUH THINK I'M JUST FUNNIN' YUH—
POW!
THIS'LL TEACH YUH NOT TO CALL A HOMBRE A LIAR UNLESS YUH CAN BACK UP YORE WORDS!
—AND ANY HOMBRE WHO DRAWS AS SLOW AS THAT WOULD BE BETTER OFF WITHOUT GUNS!

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE...

HOME TRAIL

THERE was the sound of a horse's hoofs pounding along the road. From the east, the dawn began to break over the mountains and the whole western landscape. From the south, where pasture land stretched for many, many miles, came the sound of cattle lowing.

There was no house in sight, no buildings at all, no sign of human habitation, save the wagon that stood by the side of the trail. Smoke rose toward the heavens from a small stove set in the middle of the wagon. It was not a large wagon, and only one horse was hitched to the reins. Atop the stove that was fired by twigs and brush gathered in quantity the evening before twin rashers of bacon and four eggs were frying. Tending the breakfast, and keeping an eye on the stove fire at the same time, was an old man.

He was short, stockily built, with white hair and thick white mustache. And on his face, as there had been for some weeks now, there was an enigmatic smile. He glanced up as he heard the first sounds of the hoofbeats. No concern dawned in his eyes until he realized there was more than one horse. A moment later, both of them came into view. The sun picked out the glint of light on the tin-star one of them wore. The old man did not look at the face of the other man. He knew that face very well. But his keen eyes searched the face of the deputy sheriff who had accompanied him.

Then the smile faded. The old man shrugged.

"Hello, Charlie," he said to the one not wearing a tin-star. "You're in time for breakfast."

The man addressed as Charlie nodded. He dismounted; then the tin-star got off his horse.

"I'm sorry, Jeff," Charlie said. "We're out of luck here, too."

"That so?" The old man asked. He turned back to the breakfast, for a moment, then again to the tin-star. "Have a bite of breakfast, Mr. Lawman?"

The lawman shook his head curtly. He fixed Jeff with a hard glance. "I've already had breakfast," he said. "Anyway, your friend came in to see me last night."

"I know. He's been gone all night, ever since you said you wanted to see him."

"I thought I'd come back personally and explain," the deputy said. "That way, you can't get me wrong." He took a deep breath. "Frankly, I wouldn't advise staying around here. I'm saying this for your own good."

"Our own good?" The old man said, in surprise. He shifted the bacon rashers and the eggs to plates and took both to the front seat of the wagon." "Excuse our eating, sir." And he and Charlie turned part of their attention to the breakfast.

"That's right," the deputy said. "There's been a good deal of trouble in this part of the west since that tornado a month ago. Fences torn down, houses wrecked, stock driven from one spread to another . . . even over county lines. Folks around here and kind of touchy . . . especially to strangers." He paused. "Especially to strangers who don't have visible means of support."

The old man said nothing, though the lawman had an air of awaiting some explanation.

"Of course, if there was nothing suspicious . . ." the deputy continued.

"We're just traveling through," Charlie said. "No harm in that, is there?"

"I don't know," the other said. "There might be if you were looters. We've had no looting of wrecked homes . . . and we don't want any. That's why you'd better travel on. A hundred miles further west, the country's less damaged."

The old man still said nothing. But suddenly he nodded.

"All right, Mr. Lawman," he said. "We'll move on . . . but further south."

"Take your choice," the deputy sheriff said. He moved back toward his horse, paused, his attention caught by a brass-bound iron box or trunk strapped to the back of the wagon. He glanced at it carefully, then shrugged, mounted his horse and rode off.

The man called Jeff waited until the lawman was out of earshot. Then he gave a dry chuckle.

"How do you like feeling like a pariah?" he asked.

The man called Charlie also chuckled dryly.

"This is the fourth time, isn't it? I'm getting used to it," he said.

"Four towns," Jeff said. He took a map from his coat pocket and opened it. One by one, he touched four points

CONTINUED

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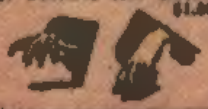

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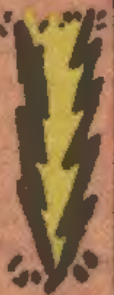

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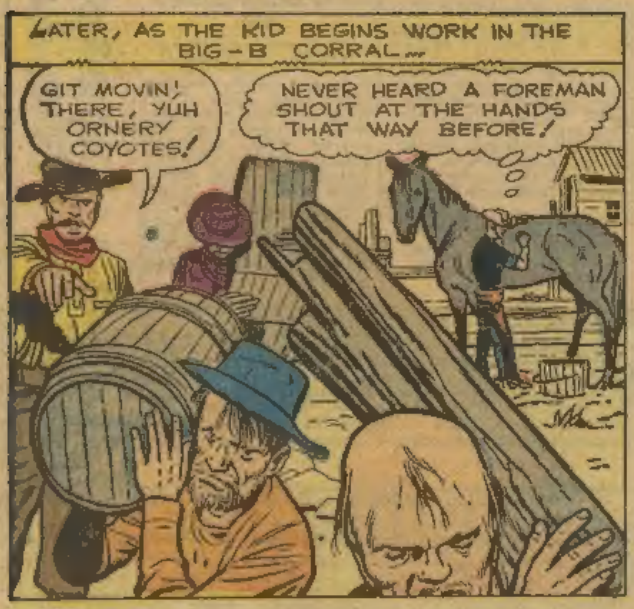
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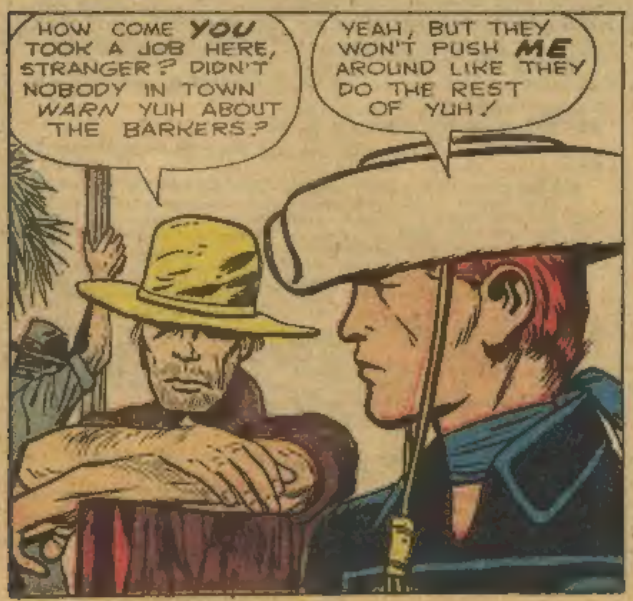
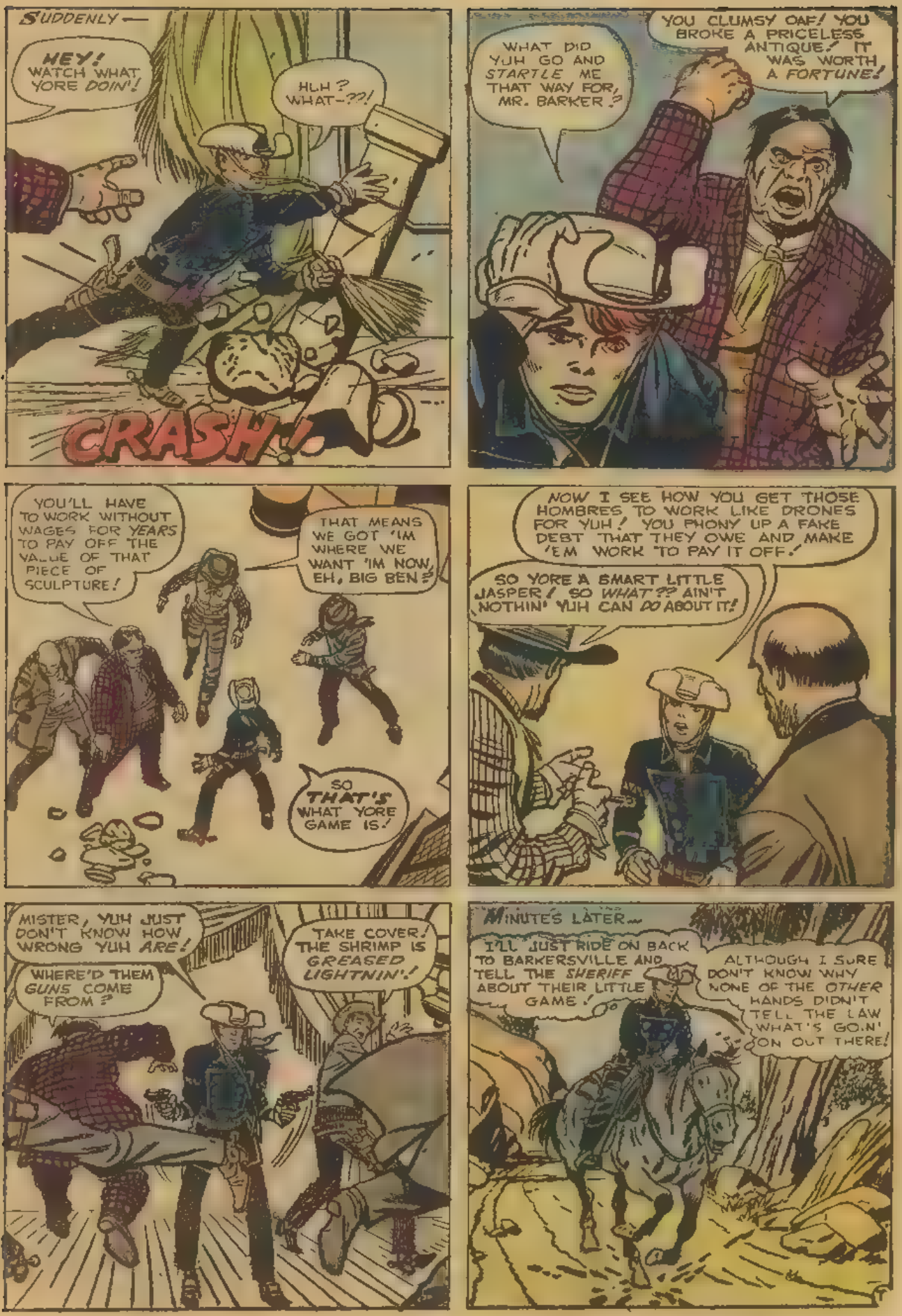
GIT MOVIN', THERE, YUH ORNERY COYOTES!
NEVER HEARD A FOREMAN SHOUT AT THE HANDS THAT WAY BEFORE!

THEY TREAT THE MEN LIKE SLAVES 'ROUND HERE! WONDER WHY THE JASPERS STAND FOR IT?
WELL, I WON'T BUTT IN.' RECKON IT AIN'T NONE OF MY AFFAIR!
IF I EVER CATCH YUH LOAFIN' ON THE BARKERS' TIME, YUH'LL GIT WORSE THAN THIS NEXT TIME!


HOW COME YOU TOOK A JOB HERE, STRANGER? DIDN'T NOBODY IN TOWN WARN YUH ABOUT THE BARKERS?
YEAH, BUT THEY WON'T PUSH ME AROUND LIKE THEY DO THE REST OF YUH!

BUT, A SHORT TIME LATER, THE KID IS GOING TO REALIZE HOW WRONG HE IS...

IT DON'T MAKE SENSE HAVIN' A HOMBRE LIKE ME DOIN' EASY WORK LIKE THIS! BUT IF THAT'S WHAT THEY WANT, I DON'T CARE, LONG AS THEY PAY ME MUH WAGES!


SUDDENLY—
HEY! WATCH WHAT YORE DOIN'!
HUH? WHAT—??!
CRASH!
WHAT DID YUH GO AND STARTLE ME THAT WAY FOR, MR. BARKER?
YOU CLUMSY OAF! YOU BROKE A PRICELESS ANTIQUE! IT WAS WORTH A FORTUNE!
YOU'LL HAVE TO WORK WITHOUT WAGES FOR YEARS TO PAY OFF THE VALUE OF THAT PIECE OF SCULPTURE!
THAT MEANS WE GOT 'IM WHERE WE WANT 'IM NOW, EH, BIG BEN?
SO THAT'S WHAT YORE GAME IS!
NOW I SEE HOW YOU GET THOSE HOMBRES TO WORK LIKE DRONES FOR YUH! YOU PHONY UP A FAKE DEBT THAT THEY OWE AND MAKE 'EM WORK TO PAY IT OFF!
SO YORE A SMART LITTLE JASPER! SO WHAT?? AIN'T NOTHIN' YUH CAN DO ABOUT IT!
MISTER, YUH JUST DON'T KNOW HOW WRONG YUH ARE!
WHERE'D THEM GUNS COME FROM?
TAKE COVER! THE SHRIMP IS GREASED LIGHTNIN'!
MINUTES LATER...
I'LL JUST RIDE ON BACK TO BARKERSVILLE AND TELL THE SHERIFF ABOUT THEIR LITTLE GAME!
ALTHOUGH I SURE DON'T KNOW WHY NONE OF THE OTHER HANDS DIDN'T TELL THE LAW WHAT'S GO.N' ON OUT THERE!

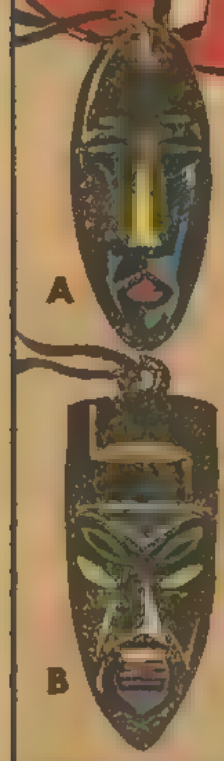
BUT THE KID IS SOON DESTINED TO LEARN THE ANSWER TO HIS QUESTION...
SHERIFF! I GOT SOMETHIN' TO TELL YUH!
START TALKIN', SON!
IT'S ABOUT THE BARKERS— AT THE BIG-B RANCH YONDER! THEY'RE MAKIN' MEN WORK FOR THEM AT NO PAY ON ACCOUNTA SOME TRUMPED-UP DEBTS THEY CLAIM THE HOMBRES OWE 'EM!
I RECKON YOU MUST BE ONE OF THOSE MEN, EH? WELL, LET ME TELL YOU SOMETHIN', STRANGER...
I'M A BARKER, TOO! THEM HOMBRES IS MY COUSINS! AND AS FAR AS I KNOW THEY'RE HONEST MEN!
IF YUH CAN PROVE A CRIME'S BEEN COMMITTED, I'LL GO OUT AND TAKE 'EM IN! OTHERWISE, YUH BETTER GIT BACK THERE AND WORK OFF YORE DEBT NICE AND LEGAL!
BLT...
BUT I GOT NO MORE TIME TO PALAVER! I HEERD REPORTS THE APACHES ARE PUTTIN' ON WAR PAINT! I GOTTA FIND OUT WHAT SCURVY COYOTE IS SELLIN' 'EM RIFLES!
WHAT DO I DO NOW? I'LL BE BLAMED IF I DON'T THINK THE SHERIFF'S AN HONEST RANNY, BUT I RECKON HE NEVER SAW NO PROOF THAT THE BARKERS AIN'T! I'VE GOT TO THINK OF SOMETHIN'!

AND SO, NOT WANTING TO GET INTO ANY ADDITIONAL TROUBLE WITH THE LAW, THE KID RETURNS TO THE BIG-B, WHERE HE RECEIVES HIS FIRST REAL ASSIGNMENT...
YUH SAY YUH WANT ME TO BRING THIS WAGON TO DEAD MAN'S PASS AND THEN JUST LEAVE IT THERE?!
YOU HEERD ME, KID! BE SURE YUH GET IT THERE BY NIGHTFALL AND THEN LET IT SIT THERE!
TAKE ONE OF THE HOSSES AND BRING YORESELF BACK PRONTO! THAT'S AN ORDER!
SOMETHIN' SMELLS FISHY ABOUT THIS! AIN'T ENUFF WORK AT THE RANCH TO KEEP ALL THOSE HANDS BUSY — AND THEN, THEY GIVE ME A LOCO JOB LIKE THIS!
WHY WOULD THEY WANNA LEAVE ALL THOSE BIG CARTONS JUST SITTIN' THERE? AND WHY AIN'T THE CARTONS LABELLED??
RECKON I'LL JUST HANG AROUND A SPELL AND SEE WHAT HAPPENS!
LESS THAN AN HOUR LATER.
INJUNS! SO THAT'S WHAT IT IS!
THE BARKERS ARE SELLIN' GUNS TO A BUNCH OF WAR-WHOOPIN' APACHES! OF ALL THE LOW-DOWN, DIRTY—!!
AT LAST WE HAVE ENOUGH THUNDERSTICKS! TONIGHT WE STRIKE!
THAT'S THE LOWEST CRIME A MAN CAN BE GUILTY OF! GOTTA GIT BACK AND MAKE 'EM PAY FOR IT!
THE APACHES SEE ME! THEY'RE FIRIN' AT ME!
BUT I GOT TOO MUCH OF A HEAD START! I'LL MAKE IT BACK TO THE B-B WITH PLENTY OF TIME TO SPARE!
POW!
POW!
POW!
FINALLY...
BARKER, THE GAME'S UP! I KNOW WHAT WAS IN THOSE CRATES!
THAT SO? RECKON IT'S TOO BAD — FOR YOU!
GIT 'IM, BOYS!
9

I WAS KINDA HOPIN' YOU'D TRY THIS!
DON'T LET 'IM GET AWAY! IF THE SHERIFF FINDS OUT ABOUT THEM GUNS, WE'RE FINISHED COUSIN OR NOT!
IT'S LIKE TRYIN' TO HOLD ON TO A COUGAR!
YEEEOOoPPP!
BUT, EVEN AS THE FIGHT CONTINUES...
APACHES! HALP!
WHAT IN BLAZES ARE THOSE IDJITS DOIN'! WE'RE SUPPOSED TO BE THEIR FRIENDS!
YEAH — WE'RE THE ONES WHO SOLD 'EM THEM GUNS!
I ALWAYS HAD A FEELIN' BIG BEN BIT OFF MORE'N HE CAN CHEW! WE'RE IN FER IT NOW!
AND SO, FACED WITH THE THREAT OF THE ATTACKING APACHES, THE VICIOUS BARKERS TURN THEIR ATTENTION FROM THE KID TO THE NEW AND GREATER DANGER!
'PEARS LIKE THERE'S HUNDREDS OF 'EM! WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO?
I DIDN'T THINK THIS WOULD HAPPEN! IT— IT ISN'T FAIR! THEY MUSTN'T GET ME! YOU— YOU'VE GOTTA SAVE ME!
YOU DON'T LOOK SO BIG AND BRAVE NOW, BARKER!
POW
POW
POW
POW

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE...

Tiki gods



HAND PAINTED—VIVID COLORS
3 DIMENSIONAL—JEWELLERS METAL!

Start your TIKI GOD collection now. These are authentic copies of HEATHEN IDOLS which have been worshipped for centuries by South Sea Islanders According to ancient native folklore, "HE WHO WEARS ME SHALL COMMAND THE WIND AND THE SEAS AND HIS DESTINY". (only ⅗ actual size)

NOW—you too, can wear a TIKI ON A THONG Millions of TV viewers have each week seen the TIKI GOOD LUCK CHARM worn by the romantic Sea Captain Reproduced in Jewellers Metal These GODS are authentic—copied down to the smallest detail. Eyes—Nose—Mouth are HAND PAINTED by skilled artists in bright BARBARIC COLORS! A most unusual conversation piece for adults. A Thrilling Unusual Gift for boys and girls. Nationally sold at leading department stores and jewellers for $1 00-$1 98 each.

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(Send for our free catalog)

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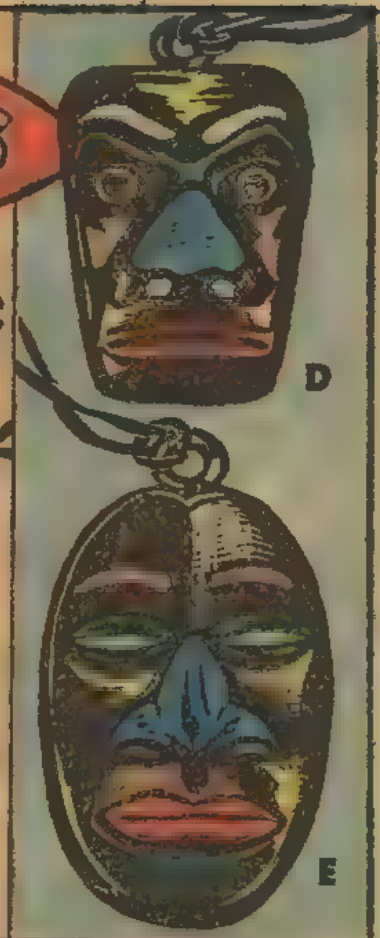
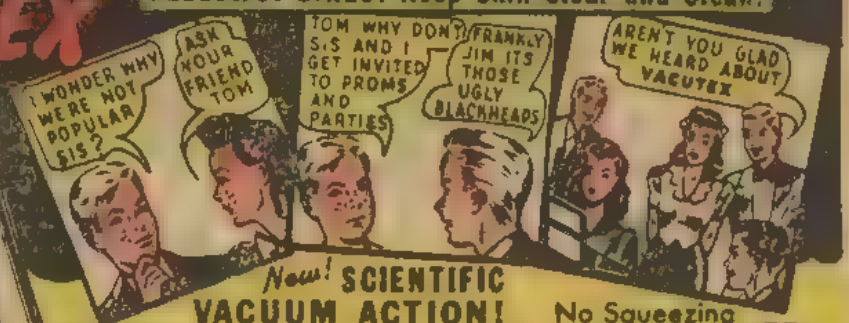
59¢



UGLY BLACKHEADS OUT in Seconds with VACUTEX

FELLOWS! GIRLS! Keep Skin Clear and Clean!


I WONDER WHY WERE NOT POPULAR SIS?
ASK YOUR FRIEND TOM
TOM WHY DON'T SIS AND I GET INVITED TO PROMS AND PARTIES
FRANKLY JIM ITS THOSE UGLY BLACKHEADS
AREN'T YOU GLAD WE HEARD ABOUT VACUTEX

BLACKHEADS "PET HATE"

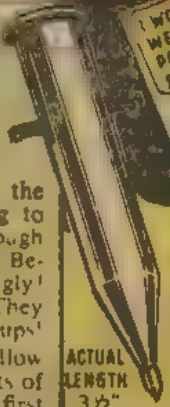
Say Men, Girls In Choosing Date

What a "black mark" is the blackhead . . . according to men and girls popular enough to be choosy about dates! Because blackheads ARE ugly! Blackheads ARE grimy! They DON'T look good in close-ups!

So can you blame the fellow who says, "Sure, I meet lots of girls who look cute at first glance. But if, on that second glance, I see dingy blackheads, it's *good night!*"

Or can you blame the girl who confesses "I hate to go out with that fellow who has blackheads! But you—are YOUR ears burning?

Extract every blackhead with a SAFE extractor. Don't use finger nails. Don't squeeze. That may mean infection, injured tissues, a marred skin.



Now! SCIENTIFIC VACUUM ACTION!

VACUTEX is painless . safe . . . fast! In seconds you are rid of those ugly blackheads that make your skin look grimy and dingy . . . give others such a wrong impression VACUTEX creates gentle vacuum pressure around the blackhead and extracts it - quickly!—without injury to tender skin tissues No painful squeezing! No dangerous infection from germy fingers. You'll be delighted by your instantly improved appearance. Others will notice your clearer cleaner skin! Try VACUTEX - now!

No Squeezing
No Infection
No Injury to Skin Tissues

Just place VACUTEX over blackhead — release extractor — and blackhead's out!

10 DAY TRIAL OFFER

If not thrilled to be rid of embarrassing hated blackheads this new quick way — return VACUTEX in 10 days and get money back.

10 DAY TRIAL GUARANTEE

BALLCO PRODUCTS CO. Dept. 26
735 East State St., Westport, Conn.

☐ Enclosed find $1 plus 25¢ to cover postage and handling

My money will be refunded if I am not delighted.

NAME_____

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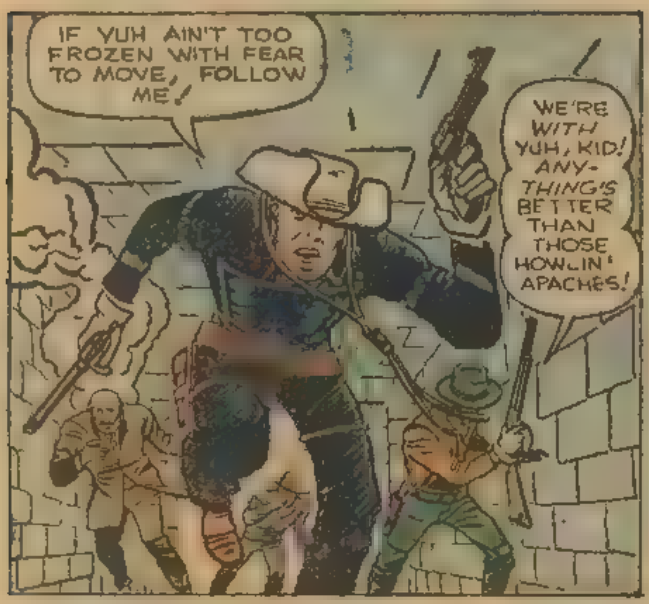
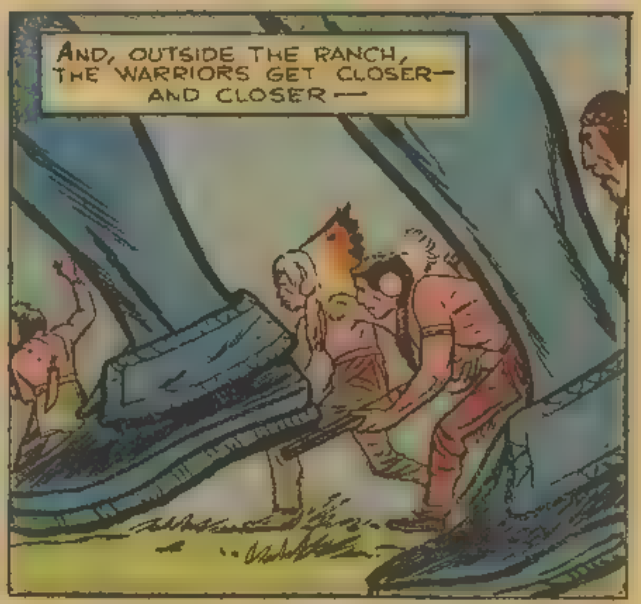
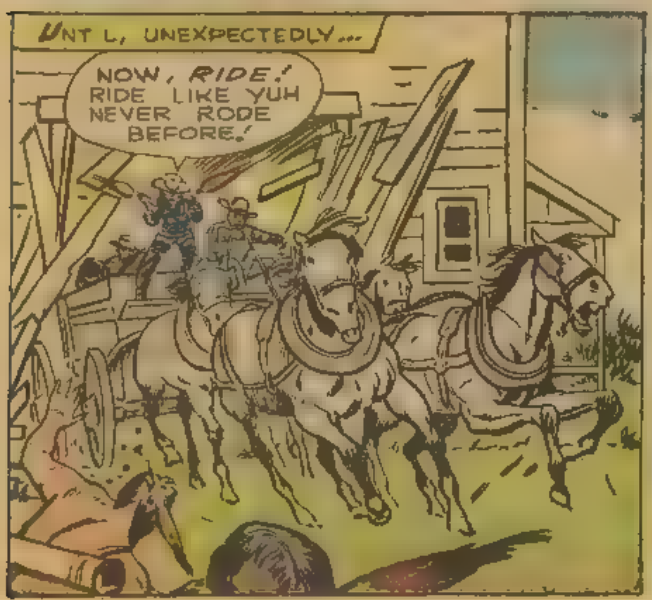
SORRY, NO C.O.D.

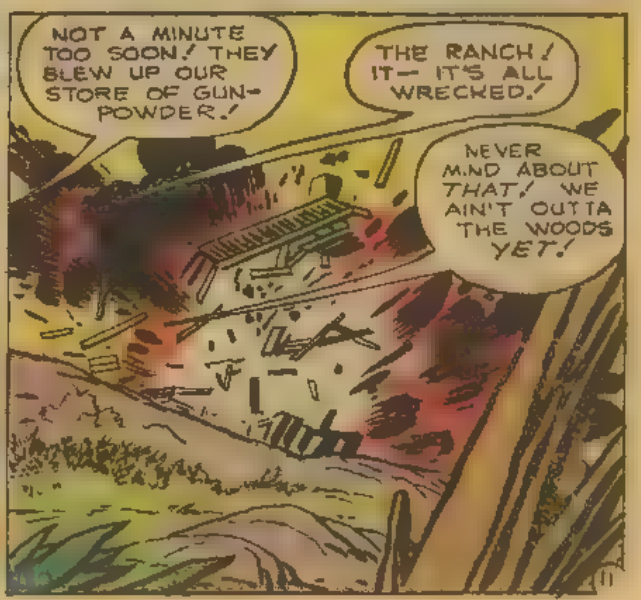
ATTACK! SHOW THE PALEFACES THE FURY OF THE APACHES!

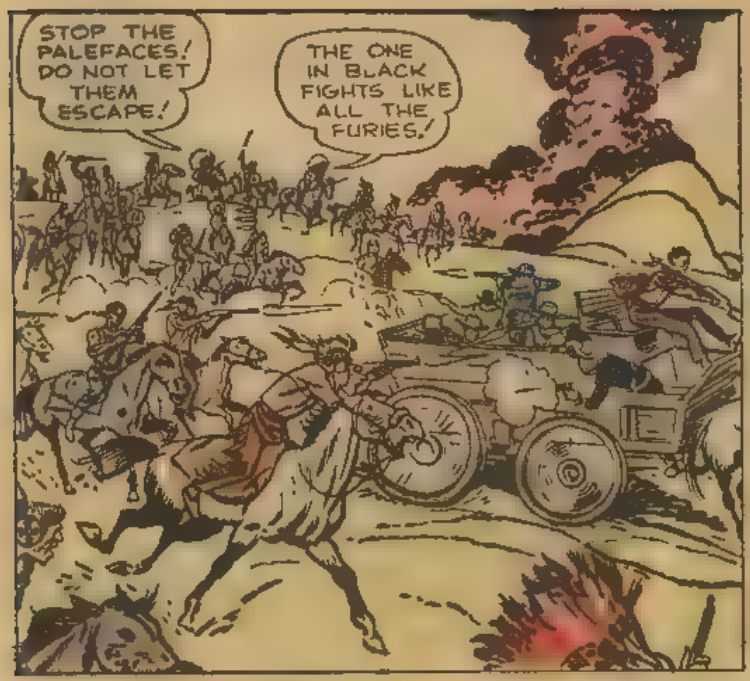
WE AIN'T GOT A CHANCE! WHAT'LL WE DO?? WE — WE'RE DONE FOR!
WAIT A MINUTE! THIS PLACE HAS A TUNNEL LEADING TO THE BARN! IT'S OUR ONLY HOPE!

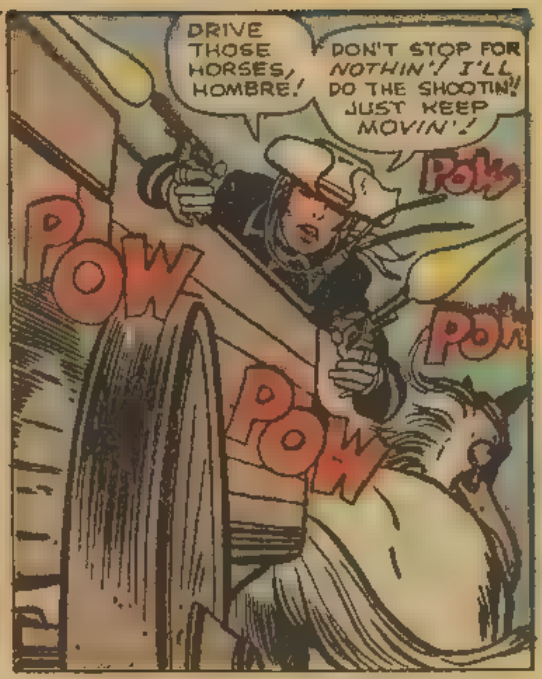

IF YUH AIN'T TOO FROZEN WITH FEAR TO MOVE, FOLLOW ME!
WE'RE WITH YUH, KID! ANY-THING'S BETTER THAN THOSE HOWLIN' APACHES!

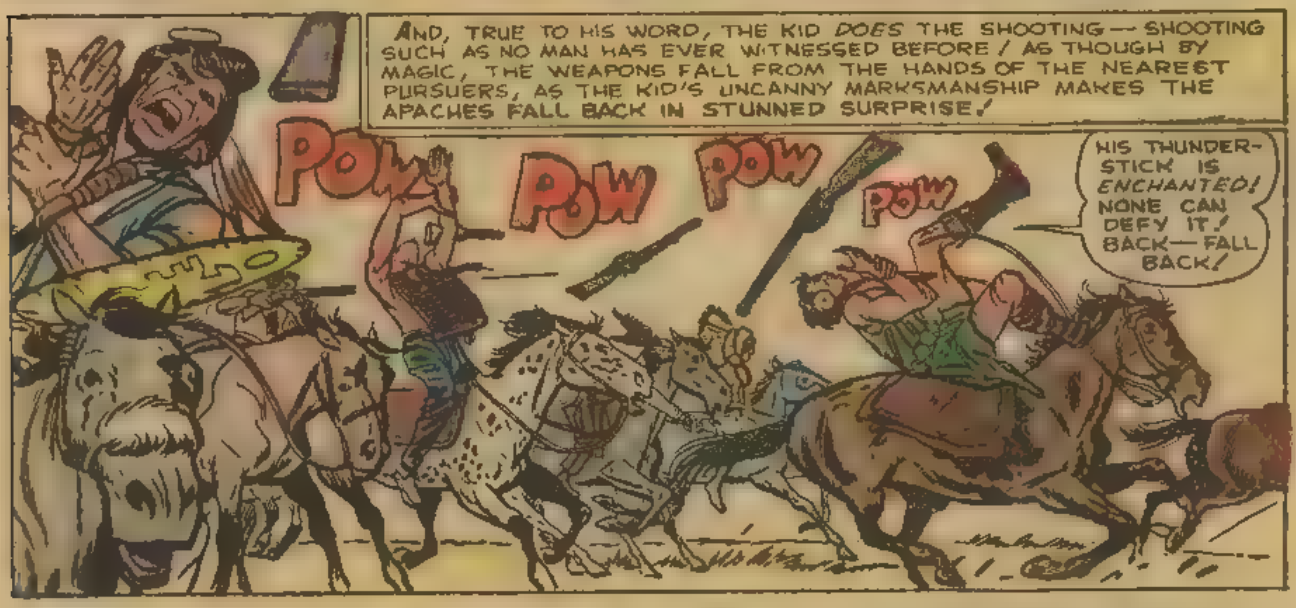

AND, OUTSIDE THE RANCH, THE WARRIORS GET CLOSER— AND CLOSER —

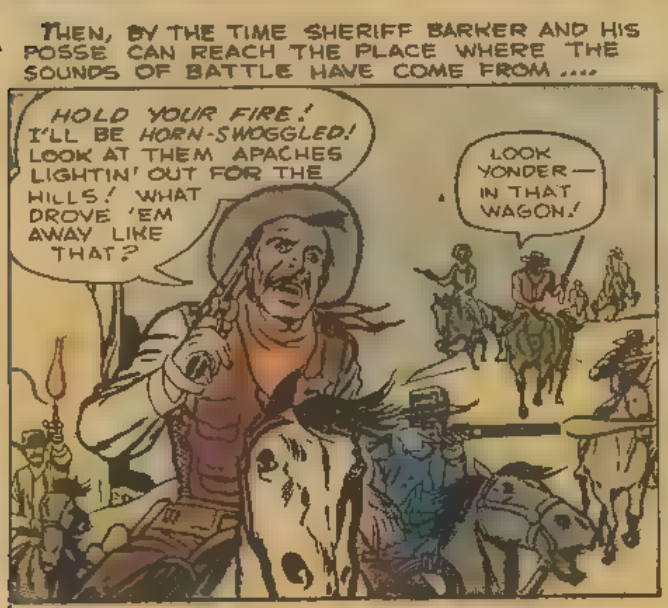

UNTIL, UNEXPECTEDLY...
NOW, RIDE! RIDE LIKE YUH NEVER RODE BEFORE!

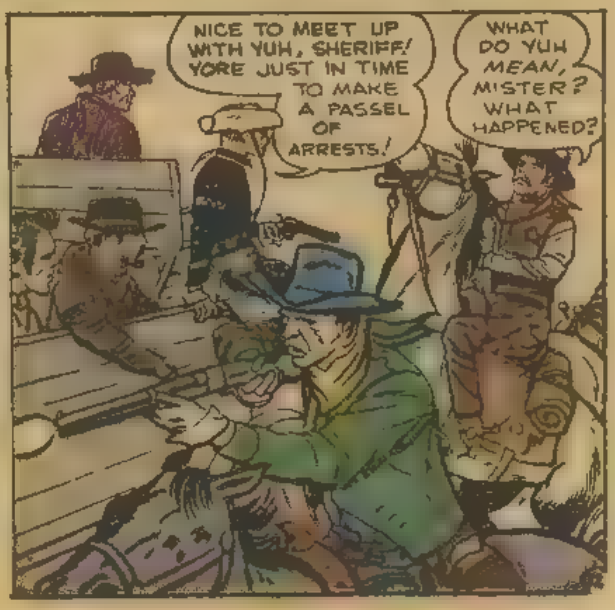

NOT A MINUTE TOO SOON! THEY BLEW UP OUR STORE OF GUN-POWDER!
THE RANCH! IT— IT'S ALL WRECKED!
NEVER MIND ABOUT THAT! WE AIN'T OUTTA THE WOODS YET!

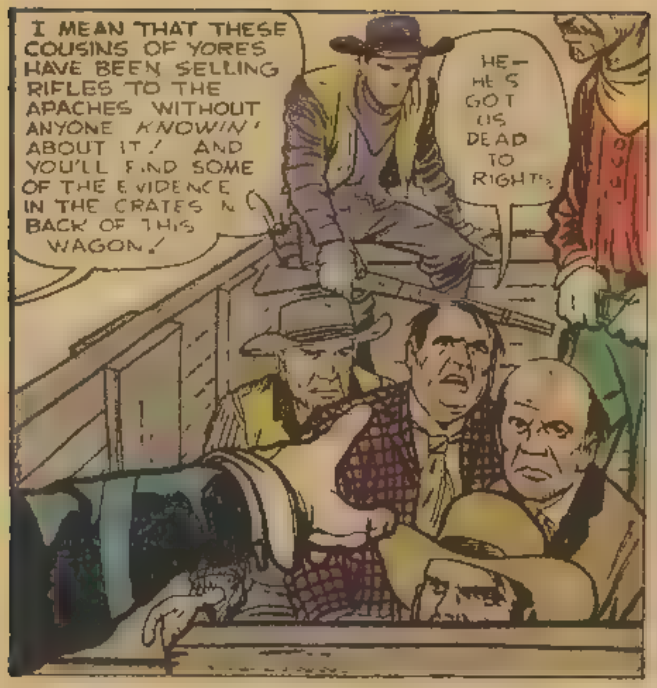

STOP THE PALEFACES! DO NOT LET THEM ESCAPE!
THE ONE IN BLACK FIGHTS LIKE ALL THE FURIES!

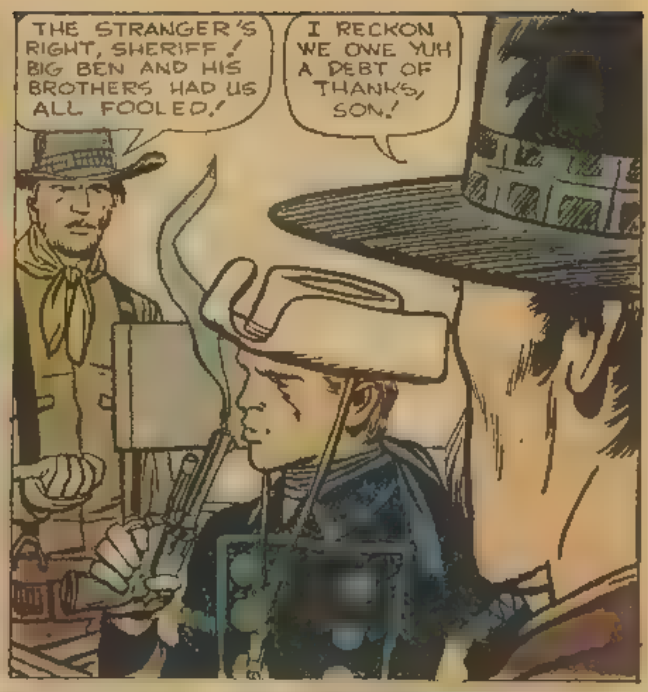

DRIVE THOSE HORSES, HOMBRE!
DON'T STOP FOR *NOTHIN'*! I'LL DO THE SHOOTIN'! JUST KEEP *MOVIN'*!
POW
POW
POW
POW

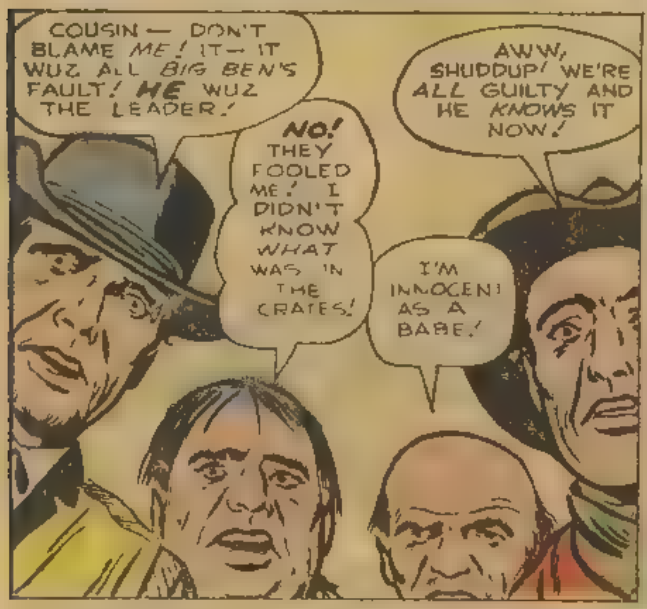

AND, TRUE TO HIS WORD, THE KID *DOES* THE SHOOTING — SHOOTING SUCH AS NO MAN HAS EVER WITNESSED BEFORE! AS THOUGH BY MAGIC, THE WEAPONS FALL FROM THE HANDS OF THE NEAREST PURSUERS, AS THE KID'S UNCANNY MARKSMANSHIP MAKES THE APACHES FALL BACK IN STUNNED SURPRISE!
POW
POW
POW
POW
HIS THUNDER-STICK IS *ENCHANTED*! NONE CAN DEFY IT! BACK — FALL BACK!

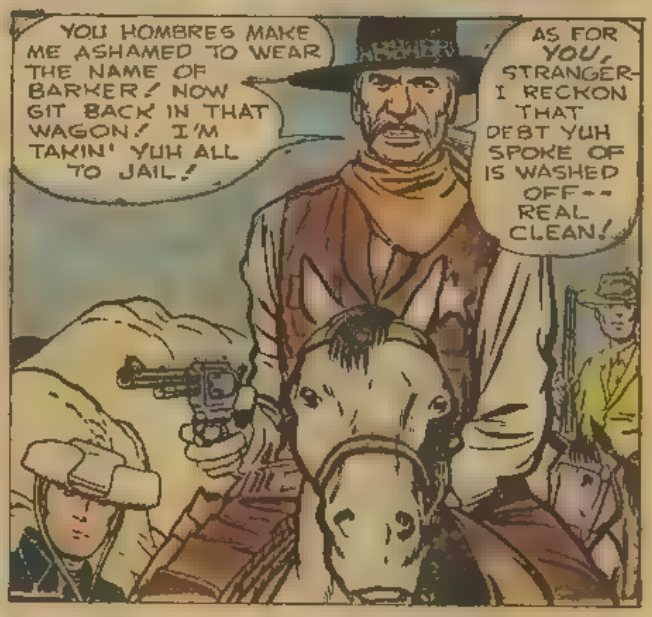

THEN, BY THE TIME SHERIFF BARKER AND HIS POSSE CAN REACH THE PLACE WHERE THE SOUNDS OF BATTLE HAVE COME FROM ....
HOLD YOUR FIRE! I'LL BE *HORN-SWOGGLED*! LOOK AT THEM APACHES LIGHTIN' OUT FOR THE HILLS! WHAT DROVE 'EM AWAY LIKE THAT?
LOOK YONDER — IN THAT WAGON!

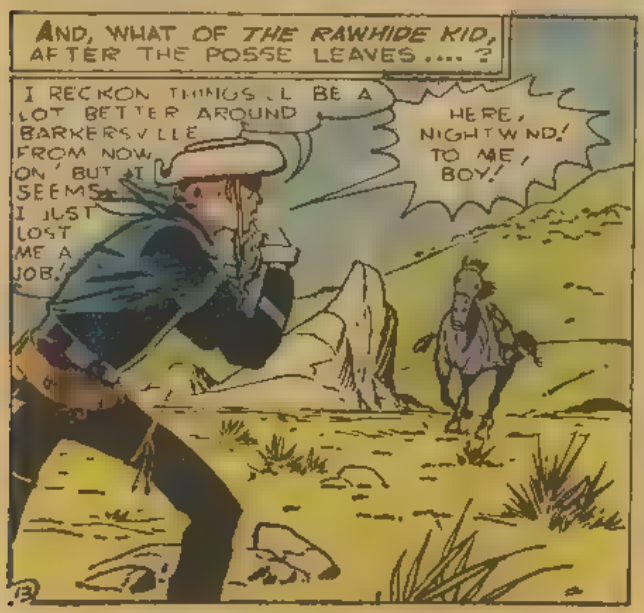

NICE TO MEET UP WITH YUH, SHERIFF! YORE JUST IN TIME TO MAKE A PASSEL OF ARRESTS!
WHAT DO YUH *MEAN*, MISTER? WHAT HAPPENED?

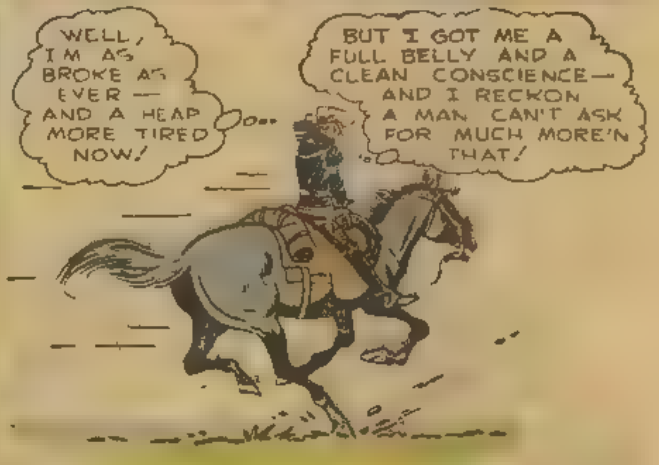

I MEAN THAT THESE COUSINS OF YORE'S HAVE BEEN SELLING RIFLES TO THE APACHES WITHOUT ANYONE KNOWIN' ABOUT IT! AND YOU'LL FIND SOME OF THE EVIDENCE IN THE CRATES IN BACK OF THIS WAGON!
HE— HE'S GOT US DEAD TO RIGHTS


THE STRANGER'S RIGHT, SHERIFF! BIG BEN AND HIS BROTHERS HAD US ALL FOOLED!
I RECKON WE OWE YUH A DEBT OF THANKS, SON!


COUSIN — DON'T BLAME ME! IT— IT WUZ ALL BIG BEN'S FAULT! HE WUZ THE LEADER!
NO! THEY FOOLED ME! I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT WAS IN THE CRATES!
AWW, SHUDDUP! WE'RE ALL GUILTY AND HE KNOWS IT NOW!
I'M INNOCENT AS A BABE!


YOU HOMBRES MAKE ME ASHAMED TO WEAR THE NAME OF BARKER! NOW GIT BACK IN THAT WAGON! I'M TAKIN' YUH ALL TO JAIL!
AS FOR YOU, STRANGER— I RECKON THAT DEBT YUH SPOKE OF IS WASHED OFF-- REAL CLEAN!


AND, WHAT OF THE RAWHIDE KID, AFTER THE POSSE LEAVES.... ?
I RECKON THINGS'LL BE A LOT BETTER AROUND BARKERSVILLE FROM NOW ON, BUT IT SEEMS I JUST LOST ME A JOB!
HERE, NIGHTWIND! TO ME, BOY!


WELL, I'M AS BROKE AS EVER — AND A HEAP MORE TIRED NOW!
BUT I GOT ME A FULL BELLY AND A CLEAN CONSCIENCE— AND I RECKON A MAN CAN'T ASK FOR MUCH MORE'N THAT!

Hey Kids! Join the CLYDE BEATTY Tropical Animal Club of America

AND RECEIVE A FREE LIVE PET!

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PLUS FREE catalog of ANIMAL FARM PETS for sale

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That's my free pet I got him when I joined the Clyde Beatty Tropical Animal Club of America
Wasn't your mother mad?
No because she says it's the cleanest pet I ever had!
Boy did you get anything else?
Yes, look at this keen membership card signed by Clyde Beatty, himself—so it's a valuable autograph!
Wow! I'm going to join the Clyde Beatty Tropical Animal Club, too How about You?

HERE'S ALL YOU DO TO BECOME A MEMBER!

Just send $1 plus 25¢ airmail postage and handling to: CLYDE BEATTY TROPICAL ANIMAL FARM, Box 644, MIAMI 37, FLA., and become a charter member of the Clyde Beatty Tropical Animal Club with club card personally autographed by the one and only Clyde Beatty himself, for only $1 plus 25¢ postage and handling.

JOIN CLYDE BEATTY'S CLUB FOR MORE FUN AT HOME BETTER MARKS IN SCHOOL

Clyde Beatty's Tropical Animal Club is your introduction to the whole fascinating reptile world. You'll learn by observation. And boy, will you be the envy of your friends when they see the great pet you get. All this is a big help in your science classes. Gives you plenty of unusual material for class reports too.

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Get your charter membership in the Clyde Beatty Tropical Animal Club today. You'll get a live pet free, a personally autographed membership card, and a catalog of animals on Clyde Beatty's animal farm. Just fill in this coupon and mail it right away with $1.00 plus 25¢ airmail postage and handling.

CLYDE BEATTY TROPICAL ANIMAL CLUB OF AMERICA
BOX 644, MIAMI 37, FLORIDA

CLIP THIS COUPON — MAIL IT IN —
GET YOUR PET FAST! WHILE THEY LAST!

CLYDE BEATTY TROPICAL ANIMAL, Dept. MK
CLUB OF AMERICA
BOX 644, MIAMI 37, FLORIDA

I want to be a charter member of the Clyde Beatty Tropical Animal Club. Please send me my reptile, my autographed membership card and my list of other animals I can buy from Clyde Beatty. I enclose $1.00 plus 25¢ for each membership.

NAME_____

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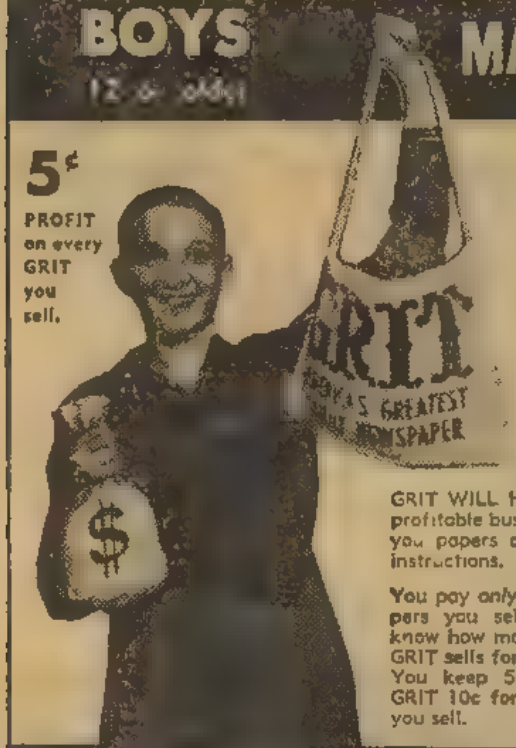
BOYS 12 or older! MAKE $1 to $5 WEEKLY IN YOUR SPARE TIME

5¢ PROFIT on every GRIT you sell.



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Grab This Great Opportunity!
SEND THE COUPON NOW
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Send my first bundle of papers, selling helps and prize offers.

Name .....

Are You a Boy? .... Age .... Date Born ..... Year .....

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Street and No. ..... R. F. D. .....

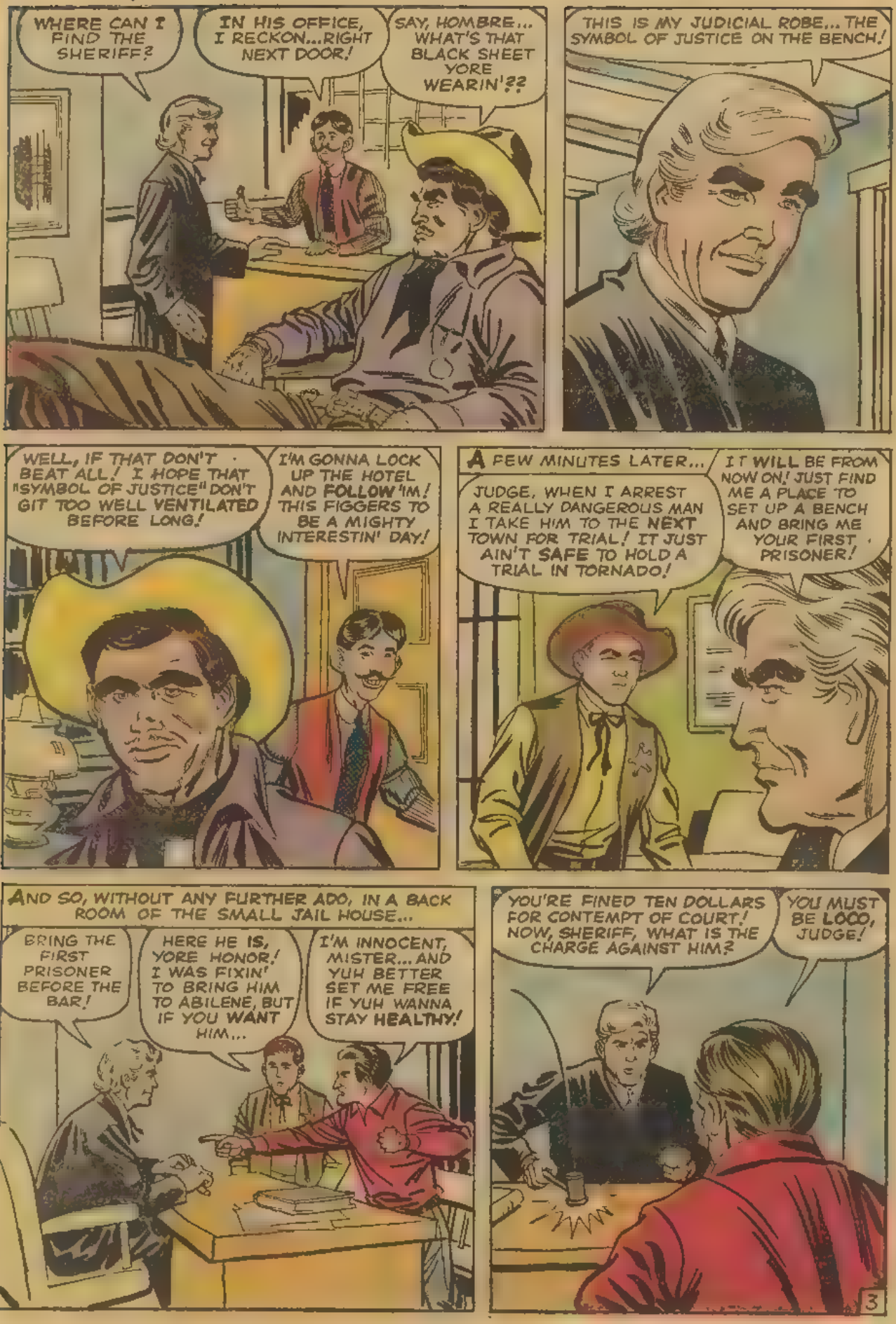
Post Office ..... State .....

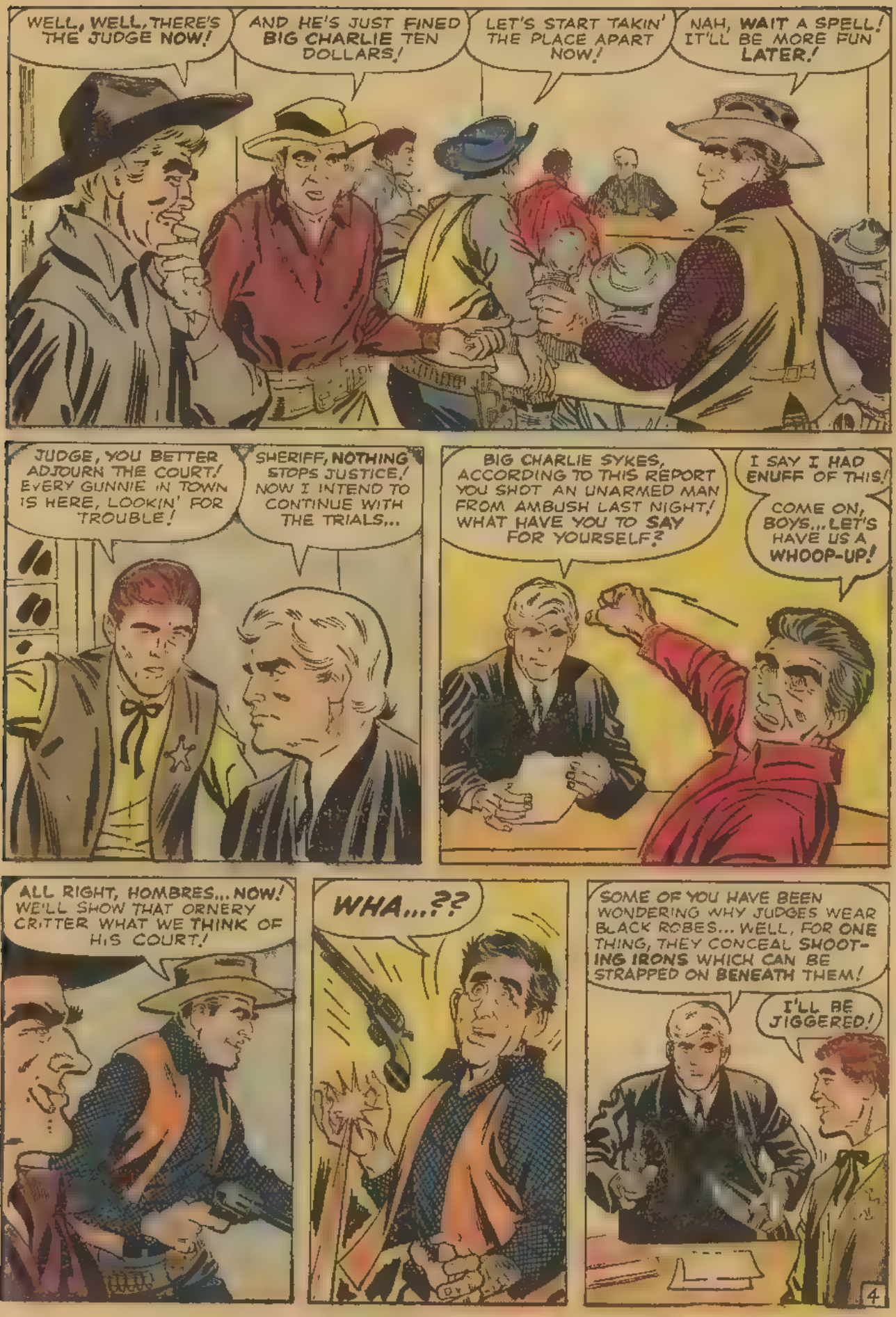
Print Your Last Name Plainly Here

"THE JUDGE!"

NO MATTER HOW WE DESCRIBE THE TOWN OF TORNADO, WE COULD NEVER MAKE IT SOUND AS *WILD* AS IT REALLY IS! AND, IT IS TO SUCH A TOWN THAT A QUIET, THOUGHTFUL MAN COMES ONE DAY... A MAN KNOWN AS HARPER BATES, BUT BETTER KNOWN AS... *THE JUDGE!*

TORNADO IS EVEN WORSE THAN I HEARD IT WAS! LOOKS LIKE I'VE GOT ME A JOB CUT OUT FOR MYSELF!
I'D LIKE A ROOM! MY NAME'S HARPER BATES!
A ROOM? WHAT FOR? NO STRANGERS EVER STAY IN TORNADO! NOT UNLESS THEY'RE LOCO!
I WON'T BE A STRANGER FOR LONG ... I'M GOING TO STAY HERE! I'M THE NEW JUDGE IN TOWN!
A JUDGE?!! I HEERD TELL OF SUCH CRITTERS, BUT I NEVER SEEN ONE WITH MUH OWN EYES!
LATER, AFTER HARPER BATES HAS GONE TO HIS ROOM...
LISTEN, BOYS... LOOKS LIKE WE'RE GONNA HAVE SOME FUN IN TOWN! WE GOT US A JUDGE!
THAT SO? I AIN'T NEVER TACKLED A JUDGE BEFORE!
I'LL TELL THE BOYS TO BE SURE TO COME TO HIS FIRST TRIAL! I RECKON IT'S GONNA BE HIS LAST ONE AS WELL!
WELL, I MIGHT AS WELL GET STARTED! I'VE GOT MY JUDICIAL ROBE ON, AND I EXPECT I'M READY FOR ANYTHING!
2


WHERE CAN I FIND THE SHERIFF?
IN HIS OFFICE, I RECKON...RIGHT NEXT DOOR!
SAY, HOMBRE... WHAT'S THAT BLACK SHEET YORE WEARIN'??
THIS IS MY JUDICIAL ROBE... THE SYMBOL OF JUSTICE ON THE BENCH!
WELL, IF THAT DON'T BEAT ALL! I HOPE THAT "SYMBOL OF JUSTICE" DON'T GIT TOO WELL VENTILATED BEFORE LONG!
I'M GONNA LOCK UP THE HOTEL AND FOLLOW 'IM! THIS FIGGERS TO BE A MIGHTY INTERESTIN' DAY!
A FEW MINUTES LATER...
JUDGE, WHEN I ARREST A REALLY DANGEROUS MAN I TAKE HIM TO THE NEXT TOWN FOR TRIAL! IT JUST AIN'T SAFE TO HOLD A TRIAL IN TORNADO!
IT WILL BE FROM NOW ON! JUST FIND ME A PLACE TO SET UP A BENCH AND BRING ME YOUR FIRST PRISONER!
AND SO, WITHOUT ANY FURTHER ADO, IN A BACK ROOM OF THE SMALL JAIL HOUSE...
BRING THE FIRST PRISONER BEFORE THE BAR!
HERE HE IS, YORE HONOR! I WAS FIXIN' TO BRING HIM TO ABILENE, BUT IF YOU WANT HIM...
I'M INNOCENT, MISTER... AND YUH BETTER SET ME FREE IF YUH WANNA STAY HEALTHY!
YOU'RE FINED TEN DOLLARS FOR CONTEMPT OF COURT! NOW, SHERIFF, WHAT IS THE CHARGE AGAINST HIM?
YOU MUST BE LOCO, JUDGE!
3


WELL, WELL, THERE'S THE JUDGE NOW!
AND HE'S JUST FINED BIG CHARLIE TEN DOLLARS!
LET'S START TAKIN' THE PLACE APART NOW!
NAH, WAIT A SPELL! IT'LL BE MORE FUN LATER!
JUDGE, YOU BETTER ADJOURN THE COURT! EVERY GUNNIE IN TOWN IS HERE, LOOKIN' FOR TROUBLE!
SHERIFF, NOTHING STOPS JUSTICE! NOW I INTEND TO CONTINUE WITH THE TRIALS...
BIG CHARLIE SYKES, ACCORDING TO THIS REPORT YOU SHOT AN UNARMED MAN FROM AMBUSH LAST NIGHT! WHAT HAVE YOU TO SAY FOR YOURSELF?
I SAY I HAD ENUFF OF THIS!
COME ON, BOYS... LET'S HAVE US A WHOOP-UP!
ALL RIGHT, HOMBRES... NOW! WE'LL SHOW THAT ORNERY CRITTER WHAT WE THINK OF HIS COURT!
WHA...??
SOME OF YOU HAVE BEEN WONDERING WHY JUDGES WEAR BLACK ROBES... WELL, FOR ONE THING, THEY CONCEAL SHOOTING IRONS WHICH CAN BE STRAPPED ON BENEATH THEM!
I'LL BE JIGGERED!
4

WHAT ARE YUH WAITIN' FOR? IT'S STILL ONLY ONE OF HIM AGAINST ALL OF US! GIT 'IM!
YEAH! LET'S GO!
JUDGE, I THINK YOU'N ME ARE GONNA GET ALONG JUST FINE! WE NEEDED YORE KIND OF LAW HERE FOR A LONG TIME! YAHOO! STAY BACK, YUH MANGY COYOTES!
THANK YOU, SHERIFF! IT'S TIME THE WEST LEARNED THAT THE LAW IS STRONGER THAN ANY OF ITS ENEMIES!
HE DON'T SHOOT LIKE NO JUDGE! HE SHOOTS LIKE A GUNHAWK! OWWW!
LEMME OUTTA HERE! THAT JUDGE IS A HELLION!
I NEVER SAW THE SHERIFF SO SPARKED UP BEFORE, EITHER!
DON'T SHOOT NO MORE! STOP! -WE GIVE UP!
BIG CHARLIE CAN ROT IN JAIL FOR ALL WE CARE!
AND THAT WAS ALL IT TOOK! FROM THAT MOMENT ON, JUSTICE HAD COME TO TORNADO, AND THE LAW HAD TRAVELLED STILL FURTHER WEST!
COURT WILL COME TO ORDER!
YES SIR, YOUR HONOR!
5
FOR THAT WAS THE BREED OF MAN WHO TAMED THE WEST... JUDGE HARPER BATES, AND THE COUNTLESS OTHERS LIKE HIM! DEDICATED MEN--HONEST MEN--COURAGEOUS MEN--WHO PROVED THAT A STEADY GUN HAND AND A FIGHTING HEART ARE ALSO WEAPONS OF JUSTICE!!
THE END

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marked on it. "I reckon we came at a bad time," h id. "Well, maybe it's just as well." He glanced at the brass-bound iron box for just an instant. "Yes, maybe it's just as well."

Charlie finished his bacon and eggs and picked up the plates to wash them. Over the washing, he eyed Jeff.

"How many towns left?" he asked.

"One," the other said briefly. "Just one."

"Well, let's get going," Charlie said. "What happens if we fail in this last town?"

Jeff remained silent for almost a full minute.

"I don't know," he said. "But maybe . . . maybe . . ."

In silence, the two men packed up their small camping belongings, hitched up the horse Charlie had ridden back from town on, and left. The wagon rocked on down the narrow trail, both men sitting on the front seat. Charlie broke the silence.

"We could have stopped near any of those four towns if . . ." he began.

"We could have . . . if they'd have let us," Jeff said. "Funny how folks get suspicious."

"Kinda makes you lose your faith in human nature, doesn't it?" Charlie asked.

Jeff shook his head.

"Not me," he said. "Human nature's all right, and working right along at the old stand. The best kind of folks, of course, are still those who take you as you are . . . and ask no questions."

The wagon rolled on.

By nightfall, they reached the county line, crossed a shallow little stream and camped for the night. Next morning, they got a good look at the surrounding countryside from a rocky rise, not far away. The story a quick glance told was the same they had seen. The tornado had hit, tearing a wide path across the western lands. After breakfast, they rode on and passed through the town of Deepgulch. Here they paused for water at the public trough. While the two horses drank, Charlie filled the two thick glass demijohns that served as water casks. The streets were full of people. Repairs were under way on the damaged buildings. A hustle and bustle was apparent everywhere.

Jeff and Charlie looked on

for awhile. No one took any particular notice of them, though some folks stared at the brass-bound iron box in the back of the wagon.

Presently, Jeff and Charlie climbed back up on the front seat of the wagon. They looked at each other.

Charlie said, "Nice town."

Jeff said, "I figured it would be," and he grinned.

"How come?" Charlie asked.

"I was born here," Jeff said. "Haven't been back in thirty years. And I was broke when I left."

Charlie said nothing as the wagon was moved out of town. Nobody had accosted them. No hard glance had been thrown their way.

They stopped that night not far from Deepgulch. Charlie detached one of the horses, rode back into town, went straight to the sheriff's office. He was not back until dawn. When he returned, he was alone. Dismounting, he took the plate of bacon and eggs Jeff had handed him.

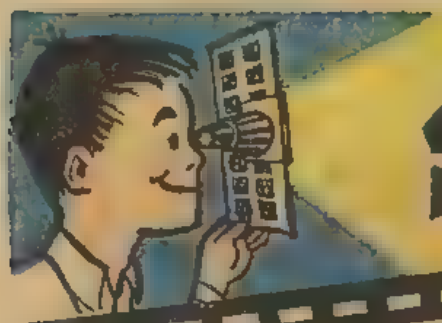
"The sheriff said we were perfectly welcome," Charlie said.

Jeff smiled.

"I rather thought we would be," he said. "That's why I saved this place for last. I didn't want to be prejudiced, but my Dad always did say that the folks in Deepgulch were the salt of the earth." He paused and then went on. "Funny thing. I left here broke, and then I fell in with that medicine show. Funnier thing is that the medicine actually worked on folks. Well, I own the formula now, and you've proved to me, Charlie, with those instruments in that iron trunk of yours, that the three basic rare ingredients are in the soil hereabouts."

He smiled. "Well, I gave those other four towns a chance; I wanted to be fair and not favor my own home town. But the other towns chased us out. I reckon Deepgulch will benefit, now. Our new medicine factory will give many folks a job and a chance to recoup their tornado losses. Don't ever let anybody tell you that a kind word and a polite smile and tolerance don't mean anything in this world! They mean *everything!*"

THE END



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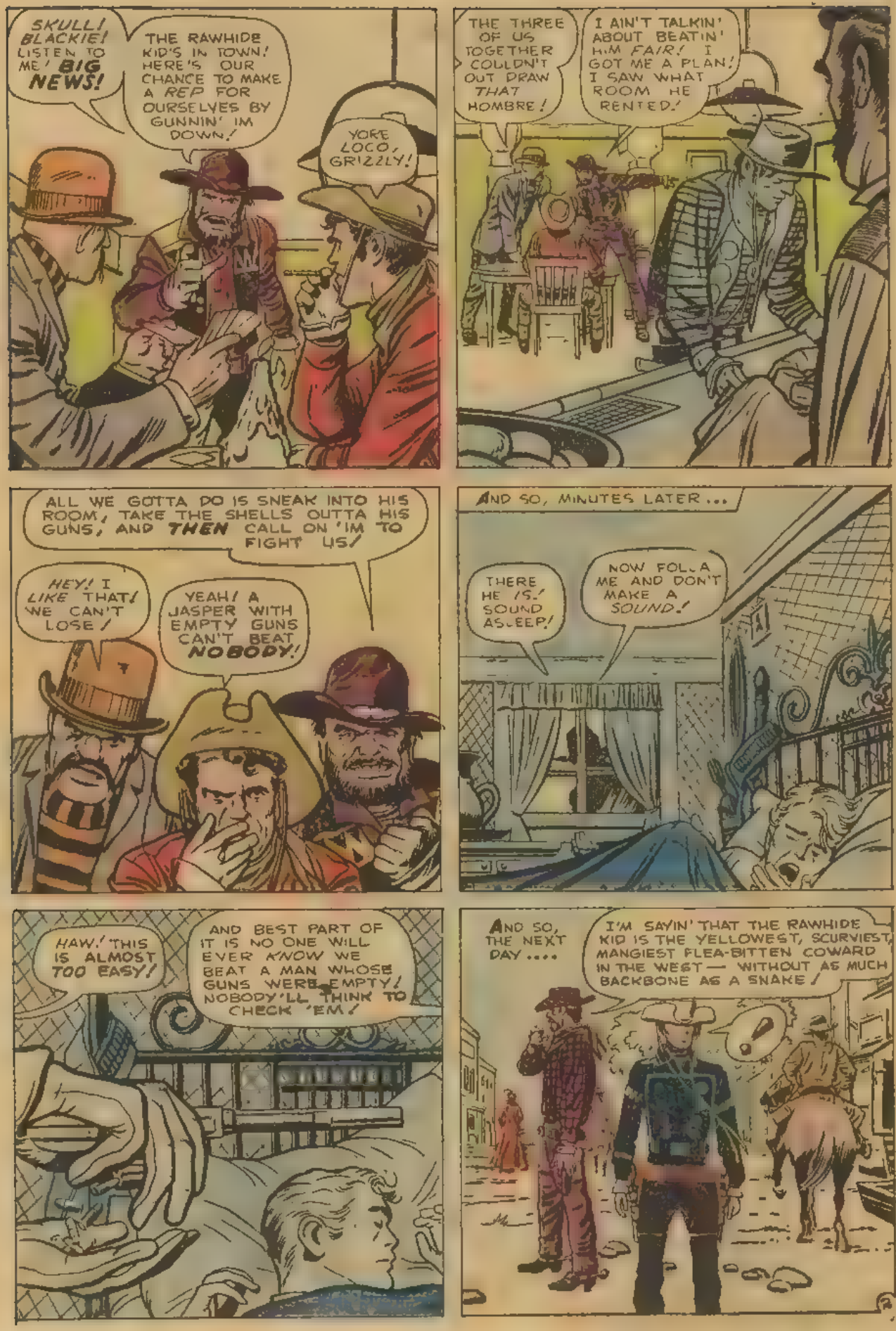
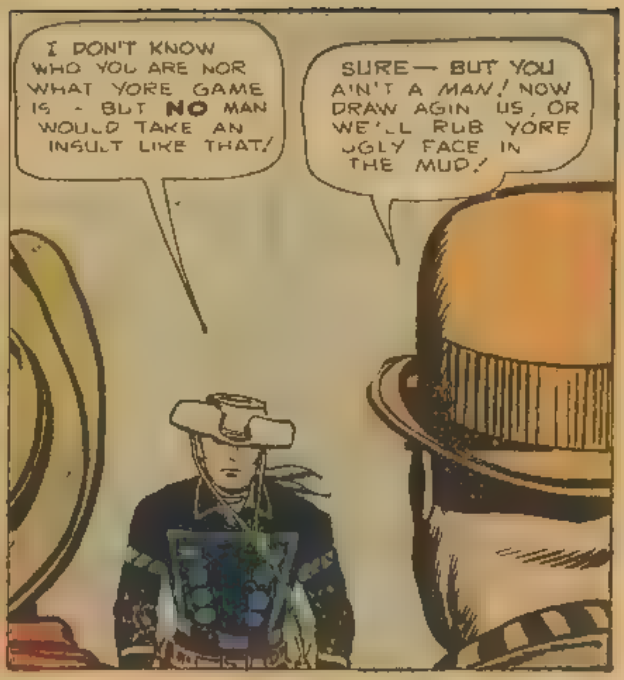
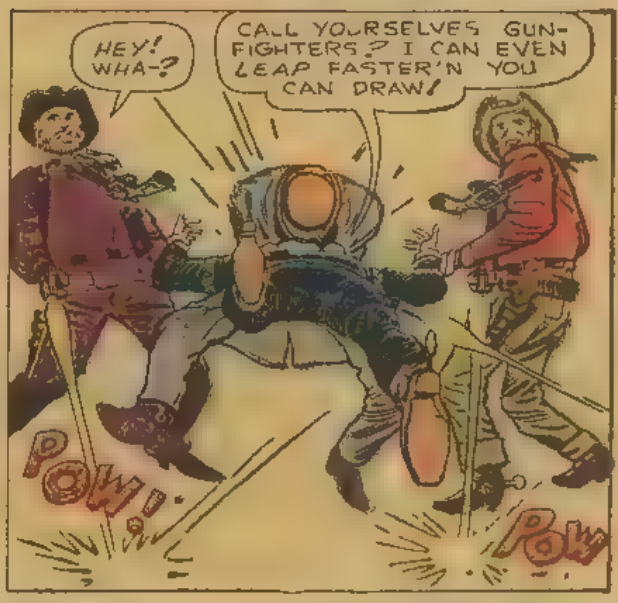
THE RAWHIDE KID
NO GUNS FOR A GUNMAN!
SAY! THAT'S THE RAWHIDE KID CHECKIN' INTO THE HOTEL! DIDN'T KNOW HE WAS IN THESE PARTS! WELL... I'M GONNA SEE TO IT THAT HE STAYS HERE — REAL PERMANENT!
SCRIPT... STAN LEE
ART... JACK KIRBY
INKING } DICK AYERS
LETTERING }
24


SKULL! BLACKIE! LISTEN TO ME! BIG NEWS!
THE RAWHIDE KID'S IN TOWN! HERE'S OUR CHANCE TO MAKE A REP FOR OURSELVES BY GUNNIN' 'IM DOWN!
YORE LOCO, GRIZZLY!
THE THREE OF US TOGETHER COULDN'T OUT DRAW THAT HOMBRE!
I AIN'T TALKIN' ABOUT BEATIN' HIM FAIR! I GOT ME A PLAN! I SAW WHAT ROOM HE RENTED!
ALL WE GOTTA DO IS SNEAK INTO HIS ROOM, TAKE THE SHELLS OUTTA HIS GUNS, AND THEN CALL ON 'IM TO FIGHT US!
HEY! I LIKE THAT! WE CAN'T LOSE!
YEAH! A JASPER WITH EMPTY GUNS CAN'T BEAT NOBODY!
AND SO, MINUTES LATER...
THERE HE IS! SOUND ASLEEP!
NOW FOLLA ME AND DON'T MAKE A SOUND!
HAW! THIS IS ALMOST TOO EASY!
AND BEST PART OF IT IS NO ONE WILL EVER KNOW WE BEAT A MAN WHOSE GUNS WERE EMPTY! NOBODY'LL THINK TO CHECK 'EM!
AND SO, THE NEXT DAY....
I'M SAYIN' THAT THE RAWHIDE KID IS THE YELLOWEST, SCURVIEST, MANGIEST FLEA-BITTEN COWARD IN THE WEST — WITHOUT AS MUCH BACKBONE AS A SNAKE!

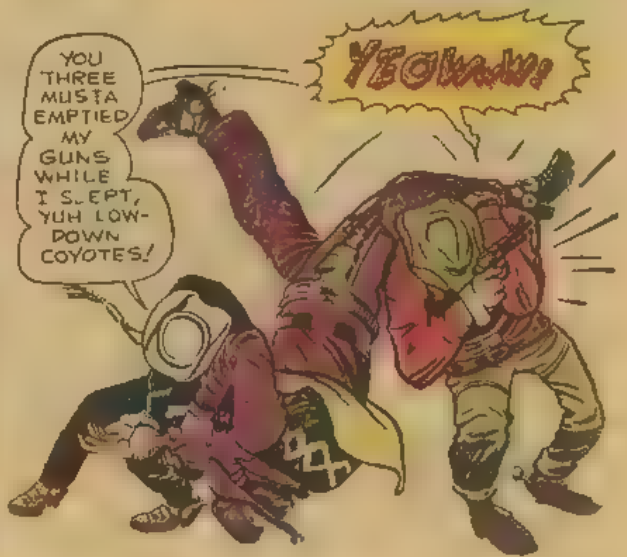
WHO SAID THAT?!?
TAKE YORE PICK, YELLA-BELLY! ALL THREE OF US THINK IT ABOUT YUH — AND WORSE!


I DON'T KNOW WHO YOU ARE NOR WHAT YORE GAME IS - BUT NO MAN WOULD TAKE AN INSULT LIKE THAT!
SURE — BUT YOU AIN'T A MAN! NOW DRAW AGIN US, OR WE'LL RUB YORE UGLY FACE IN THE MUD!

THAT DOES IT! SLAP LEATHER!
HOLD ON! MY GUNS DON'T FEEL RIGHT! THEY AIN'T HEAVY ENUFF! THEY'RE EMPTY! GOT TO DO SOMETHIN' — FAST!
NOTE: THE ONE THING GRIZZLY DIDN'T FIGURE ON IS THE SENSITIVITY OF THE TRAINED GUN-FIGHTER'S TOUCH!


HEY! WHA-?
CALL YOURSELVES GUN-FIGHTERS? I CAN EVEN LEAP FASTER'N YOU CAN DRAW!
POW!
POW

DON'T JUST STAND THERE YOU FOOLS! GIT 'IM!
WITH YOU SHOOTIN' WILD LIKE THAT?? THINK WE WANNA GIT KILLED?!


YOU THREE MUSTA EMPTIED MY GUNS WHILE I SLEPT, YUH LOW-DOWN COYOTES!
YEOWW!

IF WE CAN'T OUT-TRICK YUH, WE'LL OUT-FIGHT YUH ANYWAY!
WHAT MAKES YUH THINK YUH CAN?
'CAUSE THERE'S THREE OF US AND WE'RE TWICE YOUR SIZE!
M-STER, YORE L-VIN' IN A FOOL'S PARADISE!
OH YEAH?? WELL, TAKE THIS, YUH—
YEOWW!
MUH HAND! I MUSTA PLUMB BUSTED EVERY LAST FINGER!
RELAX, MISTER— HERE'S SOMETHIN' TO EASE THE PAIN!
C'MON, GRIZZLY— WE GOTTA HELP SKULL!
YEAH! WHAT ARE WE AFEARED OF? THE KID'S ONLY ONE PINT-SIZED HOMBRE!
POW!
WHA—WHAT WAS THAT??
WHUMMMP!
4

C'MON, THE REST PERIOD'S OVER! I AIN'T DONE WITH YUH YET!
N-NO— NO! WE HAD ENUFF! WE GIVE UP— WE DON'T WANT NO MORE!
NOW TELL HOW YOU TRIED TO OUT SHOOT ME BY A MISERABLE, COWARDLY TRICK!
WE ADMIT IT! WE EMPTIED YORE GUNS! D-D-DON'T THINK YUH'D GIT WISE! BUT DON'T HIT US AGAIN — PLEASE!
IT'S MUSIC TO MUH EARS TO HEAR THEM THREE ORNERY BULLIES PLEAD THATAWAY!
SO YUH WANTED TO GIT A REP BY BEATIN' THE RAWHIDE KID, EH?
WELL, DON'T WORRY— YOU GOT A REP! NO ONE'LL EVER LET YUH FORGET THIS!
AND NOW, I'M GONNA TEACH YUH A LITTLE LESSON IN HUMILITY!
FACE THE PEOPLE AND BOW REAL NICE — APOLOGIZE FOR STARTIN' SUCH A RUMPUS! DO YUH HEAR ME?? BOW!!!
AND NOW, GIT OUTTA TOWN— AND STAY OUT!
WHAM!
'RAY FOR THE KID! YIPPEE!
THREE CHEERS FOR THE RAWHIDE KID!
THE CHEERS OF THE CROWD — IT DON'T MEAN A THING! SOONER OR LATER I'LL STOP HEARIN' THOSE CHEERS— THE FIRST TIME I LOSE!

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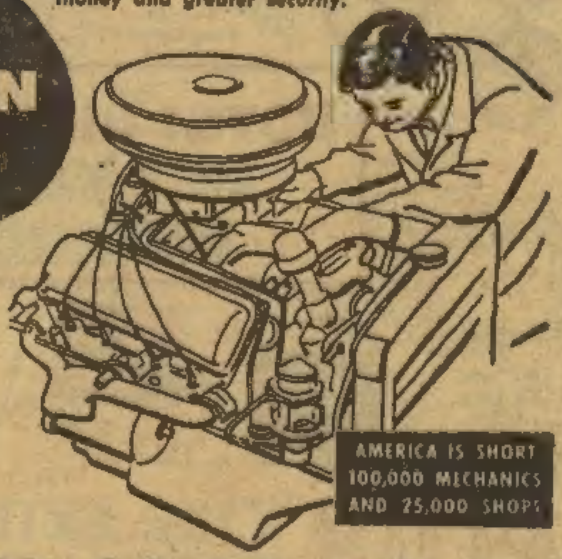

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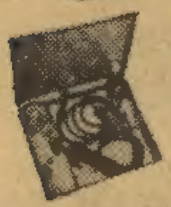

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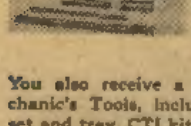

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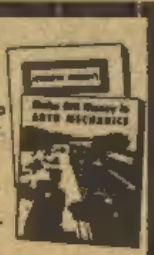

NAME _____ Age _____

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